alista Party to head the newly formed *Nationalists Pro Independencia* Party, now the *Nacionalista-Democrata Pro Independence* Party. This has made him the leader of the opposition.

In the early years of the drive for Philippine independence, Osmena was the directing head from Manila. The general in the field was his collaborator, Manuel L. Quezon. Later Osmena was several times co-chairman of missions to the United States, including the one which brought home the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act. It was in this field that he displayed his talents in diplomacy.

The foregoing impresses me as a rather dry biographical sketch of a well-known public man. Yet its transcription has been necessary to furnish a background for a little more intensive study of the life of one of the outstanding leaders of the Filipino people.

To begin with, let it be said that it fell to Sergio Osmena's lot to organize and direct the scattered elements of nationalism during the most critical epoch of Philippine history. Recall that the Filipino insurgents had been decisively overwhelmed on the field of battle. Osmena had to accomplish with peaceful weapons what warlike weapons had failed to accomplish. This he did by avoiding any hint of disloyalty to the American Government, cooperating with the sovereign power whenever he could, furnishing in himself an example of Filipino capacity for self-government, and adroitly outmaneuvering American Governors-General and thus gaining more

rights for his people. No one can scan the career of this man without a gasp of astonishment at his success.

Consider the organization of the Philippine Assembly way back in 1907. Untried and unacquainted men made up its membership, and some of the older delegates were suspicious and envious of the young Speaker. Yet the Speaker was able to consolidate these divergent factions and to handle them